

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated June 14, 2005. Claims 105 to 110, 112 and 113 are pending in the application, of which Claims 105 and 112 are independent. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

As an initial matter, Applicants thank the Examiner for the allowance of Claims 105 to 113 and for the indication that Claim 83 contains allowable subject matter.

Claims 1, 69 to 82, 84 to 92, 101, 114, and 115 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,678,781 (Domon) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,512,767 (Takeda). Claims 93 to 100 and 102 to 104 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Takeda in view of page 4, lines 10 to 15 of the instant specification.

Claims 1, 69 to 82, 84 to 92, 101, 111, 114, and 115 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter.

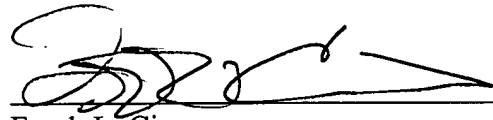
Claims 105 to 110 and 112 have been amended in regard to matters of form. Applicants submit that the amendments do not change the scope of the claims. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 105 to 110, 112 and 113 remain in condition for allowance.

The foregoing actions have been taken in order to obtain an earlier allowance and passage to issue of the present application. If, after entry of this Amendment, the Examiner does not agree that the entire application is in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representative as indicated below in order to resolve any remaining matters.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, CA office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Frank L. Cire', written over a horizontal line.

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